GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3504
ANSWERED ON:18.04.2005
UNCULTIVATED LAND
Budholiya Shri Rajnarayan;Mahajan Shri Y.G.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of uncultivated land in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government is formulating any scheme to bring such land under cultivation;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the amount likely to be allocated for this purpose in the country, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a): Cultivated area consists of net area sown and current fallows. Uncultivated land is the area excluding cultivated area from reported area of the country. The Land Use Classification data indicates that uncultivated land was 149.98 million hectare in 2001-02. Statewise details of uncultivated land is Annexed.

(b) to (d): Government of India is implementing various programmes for treating rainfed/degraded land, namely (i) National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRA), (ii) Soil Conservation for Enhancing Productivity of Degraded lands in the Catchments of River Valley Project and Flood Prone River (RVP&FPR), iii) Reclamation of Alkali Soil (RAS), (iv) Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA), (v) Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), (vi) Desert Development Programme (DDP), (vii) Integrated Waste-Land Development Programme (IWDP) etc. also for optimum utilization of agricultural land. The Land Use Classification data also indicates that the net sown area has increased from 140.27 million hectare in 1977 to 141.15 million hectares in 2001-02.

The working group on Watershed Development, Rainfed Farming and Natural Resource Management for Tenth Five Year Plan constituted by the Planning Commission has suggested a perspective plan for development of 15 million hectare of Rainfed/Degraded lands during Tenth Five Year Plan with total cost of Rs.9000 crores.